

~~TOP SECRET~~

CIA 29693

Entry 247

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

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MEMORANDUM FOR PARTICIPATING IAC AGENCIES ONLY:

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
FOR RESEARCH AND INTELLIGENCE  
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, GENERAL STAFF,  
UNITED STATES ARMY  
DIRECTOR OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE  
DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE, OFFICE OF DEPUTY  
CHIEF OF STAFF, OPERATIONS, UNITED STATES  
AIR FORCE

SUBJECT: "Watch Committee"

1. In accordance with the ideas expressed at the meeting of the Intelligence Advisory Committee on 19 August 1949, concerning the Check List of Soviet Intentions, it is requested that the IAC Members designate two suitably qualified members of their staffs as Check List officers (one for Special Intelligence and one for all other intelligence) to follow evidence bearing on the various indicators in the Check List. As soon as the various Check List officers are appointed, Lieut. Colonel Alvin C. Gillem and Mr. James J. Hitchcock, who are responsible for the Check List in CIA (on the regular level and on the special level respectively) will arrange to meet with them in their respective agencies to discuss methods and procedures and to brief them on experience of CIA in operating the Check List.

2. It is recommended that the Check List officers in each IAC agency form, ex officio, an informal ad hoc "network," checking frequently among themselves regarding Check List evidence and meeting as often as conditions require to discuss the evidence and consider estimates and reports on Soviet intentions. It is felt unnecessary at this time to formalize this group into a special "Watch Committee."

3. It is requested that each IAC representative make appropriate arrangements for adequate support of the operation of the Check List by their research staffs.

4. I should appreciate hearing from you if these suggestions meet with your approval.

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R. H. HILLENKOTTER  
Rear Admiral, USN  
Director of Central  
Intelligence

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